

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 18-28, 30-33 and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,782,402 to *Hidaka et al.*

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hidaka et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,378 to *Meyer et al.*

Claim 37 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hidaka et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No 6,970,260 to *Roosen et al.*

Claim 38 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Roosen et al.*

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of independent claims 18, 33, and 35. Accordingly, dependent claims 19-32, and 36 are allowable at least because of their dependence from claims 18 and 35, respectively.

Applicant has amended claim 18, 19, 20, 32, 33, 37 and 38.

Claims 18-33 and 35-38 are pending for further consideration.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 18-28, 30-33 and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Hidaka et al.* Claim 38 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Roosen et al.* Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for at least the following reasons.

Claim 18, as amended, recites, in part, that the management device is connected to the image reader and the display operation part over a network. Applicant's Fig. 1 illustrates a network connecting management server 1, scanners 2-1 to 2-n, display devices 3-1 to 3-n, scanner 4, clients 5-1 to 5-m, and printers 6-1 to 6-I. By contrast, *Hikada et al.* discloses a scanner 20 and printer 21 connected directly, (i.e., not over a network) to copy server 10, wherein the copy server 10 is connected to the network NW as illustrated by Fig. 1. In other words, *Hikada et al.* discloses that the scanner 20 and printer 21 are connected directly to a copy server 10 that is a dedicated computer or general personal computer (col. 10, lines 6-9). In Fig. 3, *Hikada et al.* discloses a software configuration showing the functional relationships between elements in Fig. 1 (col. 15, lines 48-54). In Fig. 3, *Hikada et al.* discloses a copy server 10 comprising, in part, a network reception portion 111, a management portion 114, a scanner portion 115, and an operation panel portion 118 as illustrated by Fig. 3. Claim 18 is distinguished from *Hikada et al.* because the management portion 114, scanner portion 115, and an operation panel portion 118 are not connected over a network, but rather are connected directly to the copy server 10 wherein the copy server 10 is connected to a network by a network reception portion 111. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 18 should be withdrawn.

Claim 33, as amended, recites, in part, an image reader comprising a display operation part detachably attached to the image reader and a web server that supplies a Web page to the display operation part, wherein the display operation part has one or more divided screens and at least one screen shows common information of a plurality of the image readers. To address these claim limitations, the Office Action cites Fig. 45, col. 2, lines 44-49, col. 3, lines 14-19, and col. 6, lines 46-67. Regarding, Fig. 45, *Hikada et al.* discloses a file subdirectory displayed

at the terminal 2 not at the display operation part, as claimed (col. 29, lines 13-15 and col. 30, lines 39-41). Regarding col 2, lines 44-49, *Hikada et al.* discloses a scanner, a printer, and an operation panel. Regarding col. 3, lines 14-19, *Hikada et al.* discloses a terminal comprising a management information portion and a display portion. Regarding col. 6, lines 46-67, *Hikada et al.* discloses a computer readable medium at each terminal for storing a Java Applet and hypertext data at the terminal. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the four cited portions of *Hikada et al.* disclose an image reader comprising a web server that supplies a Web page to the display operation part as claimed. As a result, the claim limitation wherein the display operation part has one or more divided screens and at least one screen shows common information of a plurality of the image readers is not disclosed. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 33 should be withdrawn.

Claim 35 recites, in part, a management device having common display information displayed on the display operation part for a plurality of the image readers. To address this claim limitation, the Office Action cites Fig. 45, col. 2, lines 44-49 and col. 3, lines 14-19. Regarding Fig. 45, *Hikada et al.* discloses a file subdirectory displayed at the terminal 2 not at the display operation part, as claimed (col. 29, lines 13-15 and col. 30, lines 39-41). Regarding col. 2, lines 44-49, *Hikada et al.* discloses a scanner, a printer, and an operation panel. Regarding col. 3, lines 14-19, *Hikada et al.* discloses a terminal comprising a management information portion and a display portion. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited portions of *Hikada et al.* disclose a management device having common display information displayed on the display operation part for a plurality of the image readers, as claimed. Further, the claimed management device having common display information displayed on the display operation part for a plurality of the image readers is contrary to the teaching of *Hikada et al.* *Hikada et al.* discloses a scanner

20 and printer 21 connected directly to copy server 10, wherein the copy server 10 is connected to the network NW as illustrated by Fig. 1. In Fig. 3, *Hikada et al.* discloses the software configuration showing the functional relationships between elements in Fig. 1 (col. 15, lines 48-54). In Fig. 3, *Hikada et al.* discloses a copy server 10 comprising, in part, of a network reception portion 111, a management portion 114, a scanner portion 115, and an operation panel portion 118 as illustrated by Fig. 3. Here, Applicant distinguishes claim 35 from *Hikada et al.* because the reference management portion 111 or copy server 10 is coupled to only one (i.e., not a plurality) scanner portion 115 or scanner 20. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 35 should be withdrawn.

Claim 38, as amended, recites, in part, that the display operation part receives display information of at least two of a plurality of image readers from the management device and receives display information unique to the image reader from the image reader. By contrast, *Roosen et al.* discloses a display 21 that lists all waiting orders and allows an operator to execute one of them (col. 4, lines 5-8). Accordingly, the rejection of claim 38 should be withdrawn.

Claims 19-32 and 36 depend from one of independent claims 18 or 35 and recite the same combination of allowable features recited in one of independent claims 18 and 35, as well as additional features that define over the prior art. Further, *Meyer et al.* does not remedy the deficiencies of *Hikada et al.* Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a) of claims 18-33 and 35, 36 and 38 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 37 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Hidaka et al.* in view of *Roosen et al.* Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35

U.S.C. § 103(a) for at least the following reasons.

Claim 37 recites, in part, that the display operation part displays settings of the plurality of image readers. *Hikada et al.* discloses a file subdirectory displayed at the terminal 2 not at the display operation part, as claimed (col. 29, lines 13-15 and col. 30, lines 39-41). Further, *Roosen et al.* discloses a display 21 that lists all waiting orders and allows an operator to execute one of them (col. 4, lines 5-8). Applicant respectfully submits that the lists all waiting orders disclosed by *Roosen et al.* do not read on the settings of the plurality of image readers, as claimed.

Accordingly, *Hikada et al.* and *Roosen et al.* whether taken singly or in combination fail to teach or suggest each feature of independent claims 37.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing all pending claims in condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

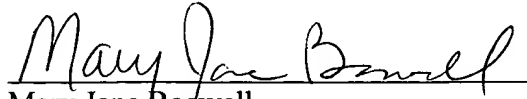
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully Submitted,

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